



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO
OPNAVINST 4627.1A
OP-422D
01 MAY 1990

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 4627.1A

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: POLICY AND BUDGETARY GUIDANCE FOR EXERCISE OF THE MARITIME
PREPOSITIONING SHIPS (MPS), AVIATION LOGISTIC SUPPORT
SHIPS (T-AVB), AND HOSPITAL SHIPS (T-AH)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5440.75
(b) OPNAVINST 3000.11A

Encl: (1) Exercise Funding Elements

1. Purpose. To revise policy for exercise use of MPS, T-AVB, and T-AH ships, and to identify the major factors unique to these ships that must be addressed when planning and budgeting for their use in exercises.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 4627.1.

3. Background

a. MPS. The Maritime Prepositioning Force (MPF) program consists of thirteen MPS organized into three squadrons (MPSRONs) with each squadron designated to carry the equipment and thirty days of supplies to support up to a 16,800-man Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF). The squadrons are forward deployed to the Eastern Atlantic, Western Pacific, and Indian Ocean under the combatant command of the respective Unified Commander and under the operational control of the Fleet Commander in Chief (FLTCINC). The ships, which are civilian owned and operated, are under long term lease and administrative control (ADCON) of the Military Sealift Command (MSC). Each squadron includes a flagship and an alternate flagship, with an embarked commander and staff of twenty to thirty Navy personnel. Additionally, each squadron carries necessary lighterage and handling equipment to discharge all cargo within three days pierside or within five days in stream, including in stream discharge of bulk liquid products. Under the MPF concept of operations, the majority of the offload support personnel are airlifted to the arrival/assembly area (AAA). Those personnel include components of the Naval Support Element (NSE) and designated Marine Corps personnel not included in the Offload Preparation Party (OPP). The NSE has a dual function: cargo loading and discharge functions from the ships performed by the Naval Cargo Handling and Port Group (NAVCHAPGRU); and, operation of lighterage for ship-to-shore movement of prepositioned equipment/supplies and deployment/



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01 MAY 1990

recovery of bulk liquid transfer systems, performed by the Naval Beach Group (NBG).

b. T-AVB. The two T-AVB's are specifically modified to provide a dedicated sealift capability for transport of a partially functional Intermediate Maintenance Activity (IMA) to support the Aviation Combat Element (ACE) of a MAGTF in a forward area. The IMA resources required to perform intermediate maintenance of any Marine aircraft (fixed or rotary wing) are packaged in tactical shelters, or Mobile Facilities (MF), for rapid pier-side onload/offload using the ship's cargo handling equipment. In stream operations are accomplished using lighterage not carried onboard the T-AVB. As a secondary mission, the T-AVB provides common user sealift in a conventional container or roll-on/roll-off (RO/RO) configuration. In peacetime, the ships are kept in a Ready Reserve Force-5 like (RRF-5 like) status in the custody of the Maritime Administration (MARAD).

c. T-AH. The T-AH's provide a rapidly responsive, flexible, mobile medical capability for acute medical care in support of Navy battle forces and amphibious task forces and forward deployed Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps forces. As a secondary mission, the ships and their embarked medical treatment facility (MTF) are capable of providing mobile surgical hospital service for use by appropriate U.S. Government agencies involved in disaster or humanitarian relief or for limited humanitarian care. The two T-AH's are maintained in a five-day reduced operating status (ROS-5) at their respective East and West Coast layberths.

4. Policy

a. MPS. The MPS are under the combatant command of the respective Unified Commanders and the operational control of the FLTCINCs. Each squadron is assigned administratively to MSC, who carries out the respective FLTCINC's responsibility to ensure the MPS are ready for contingencies at all times. To maintain mission readiness, each MPSRON shall participate in fleet and/or Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) exercises on an annual basis. Such training should include, to the maximum extent possible, all elements of the MPF concept including command and control, MAGTF/NSE deployment to the exercise area, discharge of cargo from the ship, both pierside and in the stream (including Roll-on/Roll-off Discharge Facility (RRDF) utilization), and throughput of cargo over the beach/pier to the users.

b. T-AVB. The T-AVB will remain in an RRF-5 like status in the custody of MARAD, except when activated for exercises and contingencies. When activated, T-AVB's will be under operational control of the respective FLTCINC. To ensure readiness for contingencies and provide training for fleet forces, FLTCINCs are to incorporate the T-AVB's into fleet and/or JCS exercises on a minimum of a biennial basis (Commander in Chief U.S. Atlantic

Fleet (CINCLANTFLT) in even years, Commander in Chief U.S. Pacific Fleet (CINCPACFLT) in odd years). Observer exchanges between fleets and/or Fleet Marine Forces (FMFs) may be conducted in off-years to maintain proficiency in T-AVB operations. The exercise should incorporate all elements of the T-AVB concept including shipboard operational testing, embarkation/debarkation operations, and establishment of IMA dual sites ashore supporting separate fixed and rotary wing aircraft operations.

c. T-AH. The T-AH will remain in an ROS-5 status assigned to the Commander, Military Sealift Command (COMSC). In addition to quarterly activations for engineering dock trials, each ship will be activated annually by COMSC to conduct engineering sea trials for a period of approximately seven days. Concurrent full or partial activation of the Medical Treatment Facility (MTF) in conjunction with a fleet/JCS exercise or the annual sea trials will be scheduled by the FLTCINC and supported by BUMED in coordination with COMSC. This will include activation for 30-day humanitarian/fleet exercise deployments every four years, and for 5-day fleet exercises in the interim years. Further detail on the administration, operation, and logistic support of the T-AH is provided by reference (a).

5. Action. FLTCINCs shall determine the extent to which the MPS, T-AVB, and T-AH shall be exercised within the guidelines provided by paragraph 4 but necessarily limited to that which can be supported by the funding made available in the POM and budget by OP-04. FLTCINCs shall plan and budget accordingly, but it is recognized that unless these requirements are funded, FLTCINCs may have to prioritize MPS, T-AVB, and T-AH requirements within programmed BA-4 resources which may allow only partial compliance with these exercise guidelines. Reference (b) contains objectives for Amphibious and Maritime Prepositioning Exercises to assist in the planning phase. Enclosure (1) identifies major exercise funding elements, and is provided to assist in budget development. The annual T-AH (less MTF) seven-day activation is included as part of ROS costs, and is therefore funded by MSC per diem. Should additional exercise requirements be desired, the additional funds will be programmed through the resource sponsor via the POM process.



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OPNAVINST 4627.1A
01 MAY 1990

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EXERCISE FUNDING ELEMENTS

| <u>ELEMENT</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION</u> | <u>CLAIMANT</u> |
|---|--|-----------------|
| MPS: | | |
| Ship Ops (NOTE 1) | -Per diem for ship and permanent government personnel (PGP). Per diem covers all ship expenses, e.g., manning, fuel, port services, repatriation, etc. | FLTCINC |
| Equipment (NOTES 2,3) | -Funds to depreserve, washdown, repair/replace, and represerve. | FLTCINC/ CMC |
| Consumables (NOTES 2,3) | -Food, MOGAS/JP-5, spare parts, batteries. | FLTCINC/ CMC |
| Personnel (NOTES 2,3) | -Transportation to/from exercise area. (NOTE 4) | FLTCINC/ CMC |
| | -Transportation within exercise area. | FLTCINC/ CMC |
| | -Intra-theater airlift. (NOTE 4) | FLTCINC/ CMC |
| | -TAD associated with exercise. | FLTCINC/ CMC |
| Port Services | -Stevedore cost (civilian) and other cargo handling expenses. (NOTE 4) | FLTCINC |
| | -Pierside staging storage areas (costs associated with staging equipment being offloaded/on-loaded). (NOTE 4) | FLTCINC |
| | -Ship security in port (beyond security already covered by per diem). | FLTCINC |
| TOT (Transport- of things) (NOTE 2) | -Cost to transport exercise material, not on ship, to/from exercise area. (NOTE 4) | FLTCINC/ CMC |
| | -Inland Transportation. | FLTCINC/ CMC |
| | -Commercial hire associated with exercise. (NOTE 4) | FLTCINC/ CMC |

OPNAVINST 4627.1A
01 MAY 1990

T-AVB: (NOTE 5)

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Ship per diem | -Cost to operate ship for exercise (fuel, crew, etc.). | FLTCINC |
| Activation and Deactivation | -Breakout and lay-up costs. | FLTCINC (NOTE 6) |

T-AH: (NOTE 7)

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|---------|
| Activation/ per diem | -Operating costs for the ship. | FLTCINC |
| In-Theater Support | -Added costs of in-theater support, e.g., support ships and craft, airlift, etc. | FLTCINC |
| Medical Supplies | -Any supplies expended for DoD or Humanitarian purposes. | FLTCINC |
| CONUS Medical Care | -Costs incurred by medical facilities supporting T-AH activation and resultant CHAMPUS charges. | BUMED |

NOTES:

1. For MPS only, additional per diem expense is required only under the following conditions:

a. Additional costs for canal transits are incurred.

b. Operating Tempo (OPTEMPO) is significantly changed from OPTEMPO provided by the FLTCINC in budget call for the current year. This is applicable only in the case of a major program change.

2. FLTCINC is responsible for costs relating to the Naval Support Element (NSE) and associated aviation costs. Marine Corps will fund Marine-associated costs, including personnel cost related to the Aviation Ground Support Equipment (AGSE).

3. Costs for equipment, consumables, and personnel are those generated by exercise participation, not for those covered under per diem.

4. If the exercise is included in the JCS exercise program, funding shall be provided by JCS.

5. Except as indicated by Note (1), these items are additional funding elements applicable to the T-AVB.

6. T-AVB's shall be activated for exercise on a minimum of a biennial basis to be funded by the appropriate FLTCINC. All exercise funding is provided by the BA4 (Airlift and Sealift) Account, and shall be programmed via the POM process.

7. T-AH exercise operations are a special case. Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) published per diem rate is only for ROS-5 operations. Upon request by exercise sponsor, COMSC will provide a Full Operating Status (FOS) per diem rate for individual exercises based on ship's expected OPTEMPO. This rate is applicable to ship operations only, including activation and deactivation costs of the ship. MTF activation costs and hospital support costs are separate expenses from per diem, and are also allocated to the claimancy of the exercise sponsor.

Enclosure (1)